ed functioning since April, 1986 under the financial support of the Central Govern ment.

11. In order to reduce disparity in minimum rates of wages, certain guidelines have been formulated and circulated to all the State Governments, etc. for comments.

12. A centrally sponsored scheme of matching (upto Rupees one lakh per exchange) for acquiring computer hardware to computerise Employment Exchanges is being implemented, to cover Employment Exchanges with a live register of one lakh or more in a phased manner. State Governments have been advised to send details of the computer systems being acquired by them so that Central assistance can be released under the scheme.

13. A centrally sponsored scheme for assistance to State Governments for setting up new ITIs for women/opening of new wings for women /starting of new trades in Women IITs has been approved for operation from 1987-88 onwards. The Scheme of strenghening of NVTI/RVTI at Bombay and Bangalore also includes diversification to new areas like computer courses etc. for improving employability of women.

14. The Group of Labour Ministers examined the matters referred to them.

Smuggling at Bangalore Airport

2777. SHRI RAMSIGHBHAI PATALI-YABHAI RATHVAKOLI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased *to* state:

(a) whether it is a fact that seven passengers were arrested during the last three weeks at Bangalore Airport by the intelligence wing of his Ministry for bringing in contraband electronic gadgets and textiles worth about 3 lakhs;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the action taken against each of them;

(c) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item captioned "Big smuggling racket at Bangalore Airport" which was published in the Delhi edition of the 'Indian Express' of the 10th November, 1986;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(e) what action has been taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (d) Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the "Indian Express" daily dated 10-11-86 under the caption "Big smuggling racket at Bangalore airport". Factual details of the cases are as follows:

The officers of the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence intercepted five cases of unaccompanied baggage cleared through Ar Cargo complex, Bangalore and seized contraband consumer goods such as Calculators, Electronic goods, Wrist watches, Zip fasteners and textiles totally valued at Rs. 7. 98 lakhs between the period from 30-9-86 to 3-11-86. Seven persons were arrested in this connection. The cases are under various stages of investigation/ adjudication.

(e) Strict watch is being maintained at Air Cargo complexes attached to all international airprts to thwart any attempts of smuggling in this manner. Customs preventive and intelligence units attached to all international airports have also been alerted to gear up the preventive machinery.

Misappropriation of money by an employee of ITDC managed LMP Hotel, Mysore

2778. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Rs. 2. 30 lakhs was misappropriated a couple of months ago by the employee of ITDC managed LMP Hotel, Mysore in league with its General Manager;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what action- has been taken by the ITDC management to recover the amount from the concerned employee as also fixing the responsibility for this lapse ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (MUFTI MOHD. SAYEED) (a) to (c) During the course of reconciliation of trial balance for the year 1985-86, the General Manager of Lalitha Mahal Palace Hotel, Mysore had noticed certain shortages which on investigation was found to be of the order of Rs. 1. 94 lakhs. An amount of Rs. 52, 987/- has been recovered against

this short banking. An FIR has been lodged with the local police and the matter has also been referred to the CBI by ITDC.

One employee after his arrest by the police has been suspended and against another employee administrative action has been contemplated.

Apprenticeship Training Scheme

2779. SHRI CHATURNAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Apprenticeship Training Scheme under the Apprentices Act, 1961 has been implemented in Coal mining industry;

(b) if so, what is the allocation of seats and how many of them have been filled up; and

(c) what are the reasons for the shortfall, if any ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The located seats are 3, 718. Out of these the seats utilised are 1, 594.

(c) The employers have been reluctant to engage more apprentices than the jobs available, which are also limited due to surplus manpower existing in many of the units. Further the apprentices resort to agitation for absorption in jobs after the completion of training.

Bank Credit Policy

2780. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a,) whether it is a fact that Government have liberalised the bank credit policy;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what categories of persons/firms will be benefited by the above policy and to what extent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The following features of the credit policy for the ensuing season announced by Reserve Bank of India are expected to improve the availability of credit;

(i) The banks would continue to be provided expert refinance at 9% per annum and the limits would be equivalent to 100% of the increase in export credit over the monthly average level of credit in 1984. Earlier it has been the practice to keep the preceding year's figures as base for calculating the export refinance limits of banks. The decision to keep base level at 1984 instead of 1985 would result in higher eligibility to the extent of Rs. 200 crores.

(ii) It has been decided that out of the impounded cash balances one-half *i. e.* Rs. 496 crores would be released in two equal instalments on November 22, 1986 and January 31, 1987.

(iii) The banks would be provided with easier access to the discretionary refinance and all licensed scheduled commercial banks (excluding the regional rural banks) would be permitted to draw discretionary refinance without the prior sanction of the Reserve Bank of India, upto an amount equivalent to 0. 5% of the banks' average deposits in 1985-86.

(c) Credit policies are so designed by Reserve Bank of India that all sections of people and all economic activities are benefited. It is not possible to identify any individual group or individual firm separately.

माइका ट्रेडिंग कारपोरेशन और अभ्रक निर्यातकों के बीच हिस्सेदारी

2781. **श्री कैलाश पति मिश्र** : क्या **वाणिज्य** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि माइका ट्रेडिंग कारपोरेशन और निजी निर्यातकों के बीच 50:50 के आधार पर हिस्सेदारी की नीति है और प्रतिवर्ष 50 करोड़ रुपये का अभ्रक निर्यात किया जाता है;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि एक के बाद एक (बैक-टू-बैक) समझौते के अनुक्रम में निर्यातकों ने वर्ष 1985-86 के दौरान माइका ट्रेडिंग कारपोरेशन को कमीशन तथा सेवा प्रभार के रूप में 1.25 करोड़ रुपये की विशुद्ध आय का भुगतान किया;

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि निर्यातकों ने वे आर्डर विदेशों में जाकर स्वयं प्राप्त